

## **AVOID EXTRA SERVICE CHARGES: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!**

December 21, 2013

Dear Citizen of Savannah:

Thanks for your continued partnership and help in keeping our City one of the most beautiful on earth. Please read this letter carefully for ways you can help keep your service costs down. Changes have been made in our bulk item collection program that will require a little more effort on your part to avoid extra service charges. These changes have been made to improve efficiency and reduce overall collection program costs.

Bulk items like furniture and old appliances will continue to be collected once per month at no charge, <u>but only if requested in advance</u>. Call 311 by the Friday before your bulk item collection week to schedule the pick-up. Your bulk item collection weeks begin on the Saturdays shaded grey on the enclosed calendar. Set bulk items out by 7:00 AM on Saturday mornings as shown on the calendar; they will be collected by the following Friday. A \$25.00 special collection fee will be charged for all unscheduled pick-ups.

We also ask your help in improving our curbside recycling program. When you recycle, less garbage and trash is sent to the landfill which reduces costs. Recycling also helps to lower overall collection costs through the sale of recovered materials. Please follow the "CAN YOU RECYCLE IT" guide on the enclosed magnet and on the recycling cart lid. Your participation is important. When you recycle, you reduce costs.

More guidelines are included on the enclosed **2014 Sanitation Service Calendar**. Place this handy magnet on your refrigerator to help you remember your garbage, recycling, yard waste and bulk item pickup days throughout the year. A few items to remember:

- Set carts out by 7 a.m. on collection day, and wheel them back by 7 p.m. that evening.
- Waste must fit into your carts; stacking bags beside them creates an eyesore and allows animals to make a mess
- For recyclables, place only the items listed on the cart lid out for collection.
- There is a weekly 15 bag limit for yard waste.
- Do not blow, rake, or place leaves into the street.
- Consider composting yard waste in your backyard.
- Consider donating or giving away re-useable items.
- Call 311 with any questions or service requests.

By following these guidelines you make the system work more efficiently and avoid citations and special service fees of \$25.00 per occurrence. (Please Note: the Sanitation Ordinance is available on the City's homepage, www.savannahga.gov.)

Thank you for your help and partnership in keeping Savannah one of the most beautiful places on earth.

Sincerely,

Gene Prevatt, Sanitation Bureau Director